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Sectoral policy questions: industrial development cooperation

Islamic Republic of Iran:* draft resolution

Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries,[2] the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,[3] the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[4] and its resolutions 52/208 of 18 December 1997 and 55/216 of 21 December 2000, and taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1999/270 of 28 July 1999 concerning the implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development,

Recalling also the Declaration on Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-third ordinary session, held at Harare from 2 to 4 June 1997,[5] and the Plan of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its thirteenth meeting, held at Accra in May 1997,[6] and taking note of the final communiqué of the first meeting of the Patrons Groups of Heads of State and Government of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, adopted at Algiers on 13 July 1999,[7] the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa, held at Dakar on 20 and 21 October 1999,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 55/2.
[2] Resolution S-18/3, annex.
[3] General Assembly resolution 45/199, annex.
[4] General Assembly resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.
[5] A/52/465, annex II, document AHG.Decl.4 (XXXIII).
[6] See A/52/480, sect. IV.C.
[7] A/54/320, annex.

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and the outcome of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry held at Yaoundé on 29 and 30 October 2001,

Taking note of the statement of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade, held at Algiers in September 1999, to the Third Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization and resolution 2 (XIV) on the African common position on globalization, adopted by the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held at Dakar on 22 and 23 October 1999,[8] both of which recognize the critical need for support for African countries in addressing the supply-side constraints on their integration into the world economy,

Welcoming the New Partnership for Africa's Development, which embodies a common African vision of the future and a shared conviction of the pressing duty to eradicate poverty and to place African countries, both individually and collectively, on a path of robust growth and sustainable development, thereby fully integrating Africa into the global economy and political system,

Recognizing the importance of industrialization as a key element in promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions, as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences, and also its role in facilitating efforts for the eradication of poverty through the enhancement of agro-based industries, promotion of competitiveness, productive employment, capacity-building, gender mainstreaming and effective and efficient management systems,

Recognizing also the commendable efforts of African countries to engage their respective private sectors in policy dialogue at the highest levels and to improve further the capacity of the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises,

Recognizing further the need for African countries to continue their efforts to create a climate favourable to private sector development and foreign direct investment and also the commitment of African countries to using both human and financial resources more efficiently in the process of industrialization, and emphasizing the continuing need for the mobilization of adequate resources through domestic initiatives and international support, inter alia, through enhanced official development assistance, investment guarantees, debt-for-industrial development swaps, as appropriate, and enhanced market access,

Recognizing the opportunities for and challenges of exploiting information and communication technologies and e-commerce for the overall industrial development of Africa,

Welcoming the progress made in the consolidation and programmatic reform of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, including through the instrument of integrated programmes to promote sustainable industrial development in African countries, and its approach to field activities through joint programming with the United Nations resident coordinator system in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, where appropriate, and encouraging the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue closer collaboration with the World Trade Organization, with the participation of their secretariats and the States Members of the United Nations and observer States, with

[8] See E/ECA/CAMI.14/99/10, annex IV.

a view to, inter alia, contributing to efforts towards enhancing market access for African industrial products,

Welcoming also the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council, on the role of the United Nations system in supporting the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development, adopted on 18 July 2001,[9]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002);[10]

2. *Notes with concern* that despite the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa which ends in 2002, little progress has been made in the overall industrialization of the continent and in some countries industrialization has regressed, and in this regard reaffirms the need for continued support for Africa's industrialization;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for the African countries that have yet to do so to integrate the objectives of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, as appropriate, into their national plans for the establishment of institutional capacity for monitoring programmes and related projects;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for support for the implementation of the sectoral priorities in the New Partnership for Africa's Development on diversification of African production and exports, specifically with regard to promotion of the manufacturing sector and agro-based industries, and on enhancing productive capacities and enabling African countries to participate more effectively in global trade;

5. *Underlines* the need to improve the regulatory and policy environment in which small and medium-scale enterprises operate, facilitating their access to credit and improving transport and communication infrastructure in order to foster their economic performance and competitiveness, and, in this regard, calls upon development partners to provide the appropriate technical assistance;

6. *Urges* the Economic Commission for Africa to play a more active role in the promotion of new information and communication technologies and e-commerce and in the development of African micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and industries in coordination with other United Nations bodies concerned with the development of such enterprises;

7. *Invites* the international community, the African Development Bank and other relevant regional institutions to give full effect to the relevant provisions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development by supporting the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the Plan of Action for the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization,[6] including the outcome of the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa and the outcome of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry;

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[9] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/56/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 29.

[10] A/56/139.

8. *Appeals* to the international community, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and United Nations funds and programmes, in accordance with their respective mandates, to support the efforts of the African countries to intensify and expand industrial cooperation among themselves;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to work closely with the World Trade Organization and other relevant multilateral institutions in the provision of technical assistance to African countries, in particular the least developed among them, so as to enhance their capacity to overcome technical barriers to trade in industrial and other products, including improving quality standards to alleviate supply-side constraints, and to promote industrial competitiveness within the context of the integrated framework initiative in order to enable them to integrate fully into the world economy;

10. *Also calls upon* the international community to support Africa in strengthening its private sector through, in particular, the promotion of investment and exports, the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprise, productivity, quality assurance and standardization, and financing;

11. *Further calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of Africa to enhance the development of their human resources in the fields of health, basic education, and vocational and technical training through, inter alia, South-South cooperation utilizing triangular arrangements;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa", with a view to launching a detailed review of the implementation of the programme for the Decade, including identification of lessons learned so as to guide a decision on the future modality for support for industrial development in Africa, taking into account the overall review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[4] and the ongoing processes under the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the establishment of the African Union;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.